



Kalysta Donaghy-Robinson, Grasshopper

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Artist Statement

I have always loved creativity in many different forms. Traditional art, however, has been a struggle for me in the past. I am not a shy person, but my insecurities often take shape in the form of being embarrassed or ashamed of my own creations. So, taking art classes in high school and having to put my creations out there was scary for me. However, I have found that by taking art classes and being able to learn from my teacher all the different ways I can make things, that fear slowly turned more and more to a silent appreciation of myself. I find that though I have a hard time seeing myself as an artist rather than someone who occasionally doodles to waste time, as I have progressed in art class with my teacher's guidance, I have learned to be more comfortable with art and my own creations. I have loved learning about the history of art, the history of creating and the passion that has stemmed from the beauty of the world in a timeless array of creativity. There is something beautiful about being able to step away from the real world, that calculus test or that economics assignment, and just be able to be fully myself on a blank canvas.

Though I still get frustrated with myself from time to time, and insecurity is a struggle, I have loved my time in art class and would not change anything about it for the world. I wanted to create this piece because I found the pointillism technique my teacher pushed me to try in a sketchbook assignment to be really fun and not frustrating at all, and watercolor on top of it being more of a struggle for me, I loved pushing myself to do the best and try something new. I chose to do a self-portrait because I was tired of trying to hide myself. Art is an expression of yourself, and as I have grown more comfortable with who I am over the past couple of years, I have come to realize that I could not be prouder of the person that I am, so I wanted to capture that feeling in this piece of artwork.